

REMARKS

In the subject Office action dated March 21, 2007, claims 10, 15, 17, 19 and 23 were examined. In response thereto, claims 10 and 23 are amended, claims 24-30 are new, and claims 10, 15, 17, 19, 23 and 24-30 remain pending under active prosecution in the present application. The claims were amended in accordance with the amendments above. The amendments to the claims are being made merely to clarify the invention. All of the amendments are fully supported by the specification, claims, and figures as originally filed. No new matter is believed or intended to be involved.

Applicants would like to respectfully thank the Examiner for the courtesy of the telephonic interview held on May 17, 2007. The claims were amended as discussed in the interview. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication during the interview that the present amendments would overcome the rejections in the pending Office Action. The Applicants acknowledge that the Examiner reserved the right to update his search.

Based on the foregoing, all pending claims are in a condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and an early notice of allowance.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments and remarks made herein, it is respectfully submitted that the claims currently pending in the present application are in form for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of those claims, as amended herein, is earnestly solicited. Applicants encourage the Examiner to contact their representative, David Franklin at (513) 651-6856 or dfranklin@fbtlaw.com.

Because the application previously contained 23 claims total with 3 independent claims and now contains, after amendment, 12 claims total with 1 independent claim, no new fees are due. In addition, no extensions of time are necessary as this amendment is being filed within the three month period for response. The Commissioner for Patents, however, is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment of fees to Frost Brown Todd LLC Deposit Account No. 06-2226.

Respectfully submitted,

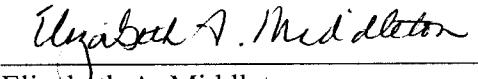
Don A. Tanaka et al.



David E. Franklin
Registration No. 39,194
Telephone (513) 651-6856
FROST BROWN TODD LLC
2200 PNC Center
201 East Fifth Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-4182

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that a copy of this correspondence is being deposited with the US Patent Office by electronic transmission addressed to MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 this 18th day of May, 2007.



Elizabeth A. Middleton